



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Monday 3:00 PM; August 16, 2010

Week Ending August 15, 2010

FARMERS HOPE FOR RAIN AS THE SUMMER DRY PATTERN PERSISTS

Parts of Tennessee saw heat indices reach up to 120 degrees during yet another hot week in what has been a stifling summer. Although scattered showers touched most areas, there were a full 6 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Farmers continued to harvest tobacco and corn for silage, as well as apply fungicide and fight insect pests. Armyworms in particular have caused problems for hay fields and pastures, which have been affected most by the dry weather. Almost all of the cotton crop acreage is setting bolls, while the soybean crop is setting pods. Corn is maturing well ahead of the five-year average, and an early corn harvest this season remains likely. Crops range from very poor to excellent condition, with the majority of the crops in fair-to-good condition.

Topsoil moisture levels were rated 19 percent very short, 42 percent short, 38 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were 19 percent very short, 40 percent short, and 41 percent adequate. Temperatures averaged 7 to 8 degrees above normal across the state. Precipitation averaged within an inch of normal in most areas.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2009	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Dent	86	71	56	77	Corn	8	14	30	38	10
Corn – Mature	24	NA	NA	15	Cotton	1	2	25	55	17
Corn – Silage Harvested	58	39	22	39	Pastures	9	25	40	25	1
Cotton – Setting Bolls	97	93	94	98	Soybeans	5	11	30	43	11
Cotton – Bolls Opening	7	3	0	3	Tobacco	2	9	32	50	7
Soybeans – Blooming	96	89	90	95						
Soybeans – Setting Pods	82	71	70	84						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	5	NA	NA	NA						
Tobacco – Topped	70	60	69	71						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	20	7	10	14						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	30	12	14	19						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	34	13	14	20						

NA = Not Available

County Agent Comments

“Scattered rains have fallen in areas of the county over the last week. Most soils are so dry that within a few hours of rainfall, there is no evidence of the rain..”

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

“Extreme heat and lack of rainfall have crops on a daily decline. Corn is drying down rapidly with limited corn harvest having begun. Some Bermuda grass pastures have been sprayed for armyworm infestations. Soybeans are wilting by noon each day and precipitation is badly needed to hold on to this crop.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“As the extreme heat wave continues, crops are declining and livestock are stressed. Corn is drying down fast and farmers have already begun shelling. Soybeans are in desperate need of some moisture. Pastures are declining rapidly and many farmers are already feeding hay.”

Calvin Bryant, Lawrence County

“Corn is drying down very quickly. Harvest this year should be well ahead of average. Soybeans are being really hard hit by the dry, hot weather. Pastures are declining daily and some producers without summer annuals to graze are being forced to feed hay.”

Richard Groce, Maury County

“Two good 1 inch rains really helped this week. Hot weather continues. Cool season grass is dormant. Lots of Johnson grass was cut for hay this week.”

John Goddard, Loudon County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: August 15, 2010 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending August 15, 2010				Current Week 8/15/10	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	101	72	86	9	0.35	1	40.24	6.48	27.16	7.17
Brownsville_TN	100	71	87	8	0.00	0	42.57	8.75	31.01	10.99
Covington	98	72	86	8	0.00	0	38.07	4.99	26.46	7.06
Dyersburg	102	73	87	9	0.07	1	23.97	-8.23	14.20	-5.18
Huntingdon_Wate	100	70	86	9	0.20	1	33.60	-0.10	23.03	3.09
Jackson_Exp_Stn	98	72	86	8	3.01	3	49.36	15.78	38.04	17.74
Lexington_TN	99	72	86	9	0.04	1	39.45	6.66	26.21	6.61
Martin	102	69	87	10	0.75	3	28.84	-5.20	18.71	-2.09
Memphis_AG	100	75	87	6	0.02	2	41.70	8.76	28.74	9.29
Milan	101	70	86	10	1.13	2	47.03	12.42	37.34	16.35
Paris	100	67	84	8	0.36	1	32.70	-0.60	23.75	3.96
Savannah_6SW	98	73	86	7	0.84	4	41.42	4.78	26.20	5.02
Selmer	100	73	87	10	0.42	5	40.24	4.05	26.29	5.34
Union_City	100	66	85	9	0.67	1	28.68	-4.44	16.64	-3.30
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	100	72	87	10	0.13	3	33.14	0.77	26.12	7.40
Cookeville	96	66	83	8	0.74	2	37.52	0.77	22.47	0.75
Crossville_AP	93	72	82	10	0.08	1	33.62	-2.67	20.56	-0.71
Dickson_AG	96	71	83	6	0.51	1	41.97	7.37	30.12	9.53
Dover_1W	100	73	87	11	0.00	0	34.21	0.58	26.09	6.36
Fayetteville_TN	101	72	86	10	0.09	3	29.07	-5.82	14.27	-5.34
Jamestown	92	63	80	8	1.02	2	36.52	1.11	22.74	1.17
Kingston_Spring	98	73	85	10	0.26	1	38.07	5.02	27.33	8.25
Lawrenceburg_Fl	98	71	85	10	0.79	7	37.54	1.54	20.73	0.55
Lewisburg	102	62	85	9	0.55	3	32.75	-2.92	20.72	-0.37
Linden	98	71	85	9	1.27	6	40.04	4.09	29.08	8.12
Livingston_WLIV	98	67	83	9	0.77	3	37.79	3.55	22.97	2.25
Murfreesboro_5N	100	71	85	8	2.66	3	42.51	8.33	29.70	9.30
Nashville_Metro	99	73	87	9	0.59	1	43.02	12.30	32.60	14.12
Oneida	92	67	80	8	0.16	3	38.10	2.49	25.98	4.24
Portland_TN	99	73	86	10	0.43	3	25.57	-7.87	20.48	0.34
Pulaski_Water_P	99	65	83	6	0.23	1	33.54	-1.83	19.49	-0.49
Shelbyville	101	71	86	8	0.76	4	33.43	-2.24	20.79	0.00
Sparta_TN	99	71	84	10	0.61	3	35.79	0.08	17.60	-3.54
Springfield	99	71	86	11	0.00	0	33.79	1.62	23.14	3.84
Springhill	102	69	86	10	0.48	5	35.17	-0.53	21.84	0.75
Tulahoma	99	68	84	8	2.95	5	35.14	-1.63	20.58	-0.22
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	101	75	87	9	0.01	1	28.02	-6.51	14.66	-4.14
Cleveland_6NNE	98	71	85	9	0.51	2	31.52	-3.96	17.27	-2.65
Dayton	98	70	84	8	0.92	1	34.27	-1.87	19.77	-0.35
Erwin_1W	95	65	80	9	3.22	2	26.34	-6.37	18.84	-2.36
Gatlinburg_2SW	95	66	80	9	1.60	3	31.57	-5.92	20.65	-2.90
Greeneville	95	66	81	7	1.01	5	22.81	-5.69	15.49	-2.32
Kingston_AG	96	69	84	10	0.64	2	36.54	-1.55	22.21	0.20
Knoxville_AP	98	71	85	9	0.91	1	27.28	-4.18	15.25	-2.89
Newcomb	94	63	81	9	0.00	0	31.02	-4.59	19.72	-2.02
Norris_4NE	92	64	80	6	0.83	2	43.41	9.06	29.26	8.80
Tri-City_RGNL_A	96	64	82	9	1.32	2	19.22	-7.76	11.25	-5.36

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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The USDA, NASS, Tennessee Field Office gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:
National Weather Service and the University of Tennessee's Extension.